

SECRET

22 Aug 1968

Following is the information from a Source claiming to have good contacts with individual Canadian communists and their friends in the Soviet Embassy:

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3028
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

1. Les HUNT, chairman of the Soviet-Canadian Friendship Society is a good friend of BAK T. but dislikes very much Petro KRAVCHUK and the rest of Ukrainian Communist group in Canada. The latter constitutes a privileged section within the Canadian Communist Party and as such enjoys, for instance, exclusive rights for sending parcels to the Soviet Union from Canada, via "Ukrainska Knyha". Also other business xxx operations are being conducted through the Ukrainian group and their enterprises. The income as a rule is being distributed on the spot by the people in the Soviet Embassy. Some Ukrainians have "additional wages and salaries" amounting up to \$ 100,- per week. A part of "business operations" consists in gifts from the Soviet Union ^{"privately"} sold abroad, such as silver articles, icons, and other paintings.

2. According to L. Hunt who had visited Moscow and Kiev mid-July/ early August 1968 the problem of CSSR was still "a very hot object" on highest levels in the party and the government. Two main factors were taken into consideration: the effect of CSSR-events on the Soviet population and the impact of eventual armed invasion on the entire communist movement. Any intervention on the part of the USA or the West in general was discarded as non-existent under any circumstances and as such considered completely irrelevant. According to Hunt the events in the CSSR were "organically" tied up with further developments in Soviet internal policy. Conservatives are headed by BREZHNEV and SUSLOV. Reformers consist of KOSYGIN, POLANSKY, and MAZUROV. SHELEPIN was with the conservatives but end July 1968 switched over to KOSYGIN'S group. PODGORNYY plays the role of a mediator trying to reconcile the two groups.

3. SHPEDKO, the Soviet Ambassador in Ottawa will be replaced soon with a new diplomat. SEMYONOV, his first Secretary had been also recalled and given farewell party. SEMYONOV was the representative of Politbureau in the Embassy.

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4. KOLOSSOVA'S successor, DMYTRUK, is preparing a cultural delegation to Canada for October 1968. She also would like a Canadian delegation to reciprocate. She is ready to pay all expenses for Canadian group.

5. In Sept 1968 there are going to take place "Days of Moldavian Culture" in Montreal, P.Q. Among the performers also a former singer of Kiev opera is expected. They will also perform in Toronto, Ont. The tour is being handled by Hurok's representative in Canada, a Mr. KUDRIAVTSEV, former Tsarist Colonel, who goes to Moscow at least twice a year, on business.